THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

Attorney Docket No.: WATK:204

1421 Prince Street

Date: December 7, 2004

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Confirmation No.: 9774 Group Art Unit: 1764

Examiner: Hien Thi Tran

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR §1.114 (prosecution of the application is closed in the sense of 37 CFR §1.114(b)); [] Divisional Continuation Application (parent not abandoned) under 37 CFR §1.53(b);

of pending prior application Serial No. 09/701,430, filed November 29, 2000

for [Title as filed]: CANNING STRUCTURE AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING CATALYTIC CONVERTER USING THE CANNING STRUCTURE

[Amended Title]: same

by [Inventors]: Toshio YAMADA and Toshihiko HIJIKATA

- 1. [] A copy of the prior application is attached. This copy comprises a true copy of the prior application as filed (specification, claims, drawings, declaration). No amendments referred to in the declaration (if any) filed to complete the prior application introduced new matter therein.
- 2. [] Abandon said prior application as of the filing date accorded this application.

3. [X] The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS REMAINING IN AN APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT OR AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116 NOTED BELOW

Basic Fee \$790.00

Total claims 6 -20 = 0 x \$18.00 (* 9.00) =
Independent claims 1 - 3 = 0 x \$88.00 (*44.00) =
Total Filing Fee..... = \$790.00

- 4. [X] A check in the amount of \$790.00 is enclosed (Ck#/8/224).

 THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY OTHER FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 160331.
- 5. [] Cancel in this application claims of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. At least one independent claim is retained for filing purposes.
- 6. [] Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
 --This is a [] Continuation [] Division of application Serial No.
- 7. [] Please enter in the present application the Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.116 with any attachments filed on in this application which was not entered therein.
- 8. [X] Priority of foreign application(s) No. 11-151836 filed May 31, 1999 in Japan is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.
 - [X] The certified copy was filed in PCT/JP00/03420.
 - [] A certified copy of the above corresponding foreign application is filed herewith.
- 9. [X] The prior application is assigned of record to NGK INSULATORS, LTD. Recorded at Reel 011544, Frame 0782.

- 10. [X] The power of attorney in the prior application is to Roger W. Parkhurst, Registration No. 25,177 and Charles A. Wendel, Registration No. 24,453:
 - [X] a. The power appears in the original papers in the prior application.
 - [] b. Since the power does not appear in the original papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.
 - [X] c. Address all future communications to

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P. 1421 Prince Street, Suite 210 Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805 Telephone: (703) 739-0220.

- 11. [X] An Application Data Sheet is enclosed.
- 12. [X] An Amendment is enclosed herewith.
- 13. [] An Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.
- 14. [X] This application is not entitled to Small Entity Status.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

Charles A. Wendel

Registration No. 24,453

(rev. 02/04)

PLEASE ACCEPT THIS AS AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT OR CREDIT FEES TO DEP. ACCT. 16-0331 PARKHURST & WENDEL